

21. (Twice Amended) An information recording medium for use in an information reproducing system having code reading means for reading a [desired] dot code from an information recording medium on which multimedia information including at least any one of audio information, image information and digital code data has been recorded in the form of a dot code which can optically be read; binarizing means for generating binarized data, by use of a predetermined threshold value, from an image signal corresponding to an image of the dot code read by said code reading means; and information reproducing means for restoring the binarized data generated by said binarizing means to [original] the multimedia information [to reproduce] and for reproducing the multimedia information, said information recording medium comprising:

data dots which correspond to [the] contents of multimedia information and which can optically be read; and

a reference dot arranged [to be detected by] for use by said binarizing means when said binarizing means binarizes the image signal and modifies [and serving as a reference when] the predetermined threshold value [is modified to allow the] so that an area of the [detected dot to approach] reference dot in the image of the dot code read by said code reading means approaches a predetermined target value, said reference dot being at least part of a pattern code for use in determining positions for reading the data dots.